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# Disability not barring Muhammad Farid from varsity studies

**SINTOK:** Being disabled does not stop Muhammad Farid Anuar from pursuing his studies at a higher level.

The 21-year-old student from Johor Baharu Selatan district police headquarters in Johor has battled through a neurological disorder since he was born but he never considers his shortcoming to be the reason he cannot succeed in the academic field.

To prove a point that disabled people can be as successful as normal students, the eldest of five siblings has enrolled himself at the Universiti Utara Malaysia (UUM) here yesterday, to undergo a Bachelor's Degree programme in Events Management.

"I have never regarded myself as a disabled and I (believe I) can do things that other people can. I sat for STPM (Sijil Tinggi Pelajaran Malaysia) just like others and I succeeded. I also feel embarrassed when my 20-year-old brother Muhammad Fuad had continued his studies at the Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS). That drives me to enter varsity," he told reporters at UUM's Petronas Student Residence Hall here.

Muhammad Farid, who scored

a CGPA of 3.17 in STPM, expressed his gratitude as he was selected to further his studies at UUM which he regarded as the best university in the country in terms of facilities for the disabled.

He was among 10 disabled students enrolled into UUM for the 2016/2017 academic session, bringing the overall number of existing students with disabilities at the university to more than 20 people.

A total of 4,114 new students registered themselves for the new academic calendar's first intake comprising 3,153 female and 961 male students. They will undergo 36 programmes offered by UUM.

Its vice-chancellor, Prof Datuk Seri Dr Mohamed Mustafa Ishak said the newly-registered disabled students had obtained excellent results in STPM with a CGPA of 3.00 and above.

"Last year, we only had five disabled students (registered) and this year, it increased to 10. This is because UUM has provided various facilities to them such as designated accommodation, toilets and transportation to classes," he said earlier at a press conference. — Bernama